

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Is there a deadline to file a claim for unclaimed property?**

A: As unclaimed property is held in perpetuity, unclaimed property owners may file a claim anytime.

**Q: Is there a fee to file a claim for unclaimed property?**

A: No, there is no fee to file a claim for unclaimed property with the State. The State of Hawaii Unclaimed Property Program is a public service provided by the State.

**Q: What are Professional locators and Heir Finders?**

A: Professional locators and Heir finders are companies and businesses that may contact unclaimed property owners to assist in the recovery of abandoned property for a fee. Laws governing fees and other requirements that must be met by professional locators are included in Chapter 523A-35, HRS.

**Q: How do I prove ownership of the property?**

A: Submit documentation evidencing information provided by the reporting company located in Box A of the Claim for Return of Property Presumed Abandoned form. Coincidence of having the same name as that listed on a property does not establish ownership, as there are many people who share the same names.

**Q: I am having difficulty proving ownership to the property. What can I do?**

A: Obtain a letter from the Reporting Company identifying you as either the Reported Owner or as the person entitled to the property.

**Q: What if my child, that is still a minor, is listed as an owner?**

A: The parent, legal guardian or custodian of the minor will need to assist and file a claim on behalf of the minor. Payment for the unclaimed property will be made to the reported owner(s). The parent, legal guardian or custodian of the minor will also need to submit a copy of the legal document evidencing authority to sign on behalf of the minor. Examples are Certificate of Live Birth, adoption papers or court documents appointing legal guardianship.

**Q: How long does it take to process a claim?**

A: Claims are processed in the order in which they are received. Due to the volume of claims received by the State of Hawaii Unclaimed Property Program allow a minimum of 120 days to process a claim. Failure to submit a claim form completely filled-out, along with all of the required documentation, will delay the processing of a claim.

**Q: I've moved since submitting my claim, what do I do?**

A: Contact the State of Hawaii Unclaimed Property Program as soon as possible to update your mailing address.